

Appendix table 7-49.

Users of various sources of information: 2001
 (Percentages)

Characteristic	Newspaper every day	News magazine read regularly	Public library visits per year		Science museum 1 or more visits per year	Sample size (number)
			1 or more	5 or more		
All adults	42	16	75	48	66	1,574
Male	45	17	71	42	64	751
Female	39	14	78	53	68	823
Formal education						
Less than high school	23	7	60	27	54	116
High school graduate	44	13	74	48	64	834
Baccalaureate	48	25	85	62	81	393
Graduate/professional	60	31	85	67	83	221
Science/mathematics education^a						
Low	38	11	68	37	56	674
Middle	43	17	81	58	75	469
High	50	27	95	61	82	431
Attentiveness to science and technology^b						
Attentive public	78	29	78	55	75	195
Interested public	38	15	78	51	68	755
Residual public	38	13	70	42	62	624
Access to cable/satellite TV						
Cable and satellite	42	17	90	56	60	42
Cable	49	19	75	48	69	991
Satellite	35	10	73	43	63	253
Neither ^c	27	9	74	49	61	286

^aRespondents were classified as having a "high" level of science/mathematics education if they took nine or more high school and college science/math courses. They were classified as "middle" if they took six to eight such courses and "low" if they took five or fewer.

^bTo be classified as attentive to a given policy area, an individual must indicate that he or she is "very interested" in that issue, is "very well informed" about it, and a regular reader of a daily newspaper or relevant national magazine. Individuals who report that they are "very interested" in an issue area but do not think that they are "very well informed" about it are classified as the "interested public." All other individuals are classified as members of the "residual public" for that issue. The attentive public for science and technology combines the attentive public for new scientific discoveries and the attentive public for new inventions and technologies. Any individual who is not attentive to either of those issues but who is a member of the interested public for at least one of those issues is classified as a member of the interested public for science and technology. All other individuals are classified as members of the residual public for science and technology.

^cIncludes respondents who reported that they did not watch any television.

NOTE: A few respondents did not provide information about their highest level of education. Responses are to the following questions:

–How often do you read a newspaper: every day, a few times a week, once a week, or less than once a week?

–Are there any magazines that you read regularly, that is, most of the time? What magazine would that be?

I am going to read you a short list of places and ask you to tell me how many times you visited each type of place during the last year, that is, the last 12 months. If you did not visit any given place, just say none.

–A natural history museum?

–A zoo or an aquarium?

–A science or technology museum?

–A public library?

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics (NSF/SRS), NSF Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology, 2001.